

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10, and 14 – 20 are now pending in the application. Claims 9 and 11-13 are now cancelled. Claims 1 and 10 are now amended. The claim amendments are fully supported by the application as filed and do not present new subject matter. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Miyazaki et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,670,205).

Claims 1, 2, 4, 8 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Pan (U.S. Pat. No. 6,501,663).

Claims 14-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Akahira (U.S. Pat. No. 6,145,981).

These Section 102 rejections are respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 1 recites, in part and with reference to Figures 4-6 for exemplary purposes only as the invention includes numerous embodiments, the following: "a first step [Figures 4A and 4B] of arranging the droplets whose width is smaller than that of the film pattern on the substrate and forming a central part of the film pattern; a second step [Figures 5A and 5B] of arranging the droplets whose width is smaller than that of the film pattern on the substrate and forming one side with respect to the formed central part; and a third step [Figures 6A and 6B] of arranging the droplets whose width is

smaller than that of the film pattern on the substrate and forming the other side with respect to the formed central part.”

Amended Claim 10 is similar to amended Claim 1, but recites a “wiring pattern” rather than a “film pattern.”

Claim 14 recites, in part and with reference to Figures 4-6 for exemplary purposes only as the invention includes numerous embodiments, the following: “a first step [Figures 4A and 4B] of discharging a first plurality of the droplets in an elongated central part of the film pattern on the substrate; a second step [Figures 5A and 5B] of discharging a second plurality of the droplets along a first side of the formed central part, the second plurality of the droplets partially overlapping the formed central part; a third step [Figures 6A and 6B] of discharging a third plurality of the droplets along a second side of the formed central part, the third plurality of the droplets partially overlapping the formed central part.”

The claimed inventions provide numerous advantages, such as the prevention of bulging of the droplets and permitting formation of film/wiring patterns having enlarged widths.

The Miyazaki et al. reference appears to disclose, with reference to Figure 7B, depositing a plurality of ink dots on a frame 10c. A first volume of ink drops 40a are deposited that have an area larger than the frame 10c. A second volume of ink drops 42a are deposited that have an area that is smaller than the frame 10c. The Miyazaki et al. reference does not appear to specify an order for depositing the drops 40a or the drops 42b.

The Pan reference appears to disclose, with reference to Figure 15, forming a plurality of rows of film patterns. A first side pattern 153 is formed first. A middle pattern 155 is formed second. A second side pattern 157 is formed third. The middle pattern 155 is not formed first and the first pattern 153 is not the middle pattern, as suggested by the Office Action. See col. 10, lines 10-20.

The Miyazaki and the Pan references fail to disclose or suggest a first step of arranging the droplets whose width is smaller than that of the film pattern/wiring pattern on the substrate and forming a central part of the pattern; a second step of arranging the droplets whose width is smaller than that of the film pattern/wiring pattern on the substrate and forming one side with respect to the formed central part; and a third step of arranging the droplets whose width is smaller than that of the film pattern/wiring pattern on the substrate and forming the other side with respect to the formed central part, as set forth in Amended Claims 1 and 10. Therefore, the Miyazaki and the Pan references fail to anticipate or render obvious amended Claim 1 and 10, as well as those claims dependent therefrom.

The Akahira reference appears to disclose, with reference to Figures 15 and 16, depositing a plurality of droplets sequentially in a straight line, each line having a width equal to the width of a single droplet. The Akahira reference fails to disclose or suggest "a first step of discharging a first plurality of the droplets in an elongated central part of the film pattern on the substrate; a second step of discharging a second plurality of the droplets along a first side of the formed central part, the second plurality of the droplets partially overlapping the formed central part; a third step of discharging a third plurality of the droplets along a second side of the formed central part, the third plurality of the

droplets partially overlapping the formed central part," as set forth in Claim 14. Therefore, the Akahira reference fails to anticipate or render obvious Claim 14 and those claim dependent therefrom. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of his Section 102 rejection of Claim 14 and those Claims dependent therefrom.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyazaki et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,670,205) as applied to Claims 1-6 above, and further in view of Akahira et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,179,400). Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyazaki et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,670,205) as applied to Claim 1 above and further in view of Ohtsu et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,720,119). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 5 and 7 are dependent on amended Claim 1. As set forth above, Claim 1 is not anticipated or obvious in light of the cited art. Therefore, dependent Claims 5 and 7 are also not anticipated or obvious in light of the art for at least the same reasons as set forth above with respect to Claim 1.

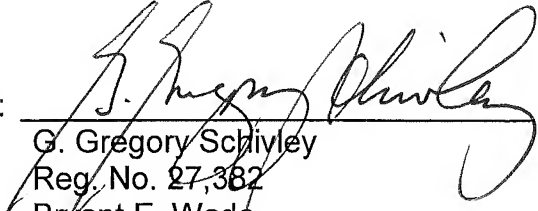
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office

Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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